



Presentation

Donna Wear

Principal



- Collaborative partners
 - Marshall County Public Schools
 - McCracken County Public Schools
 - West Kentucky Community &
Technical College
 - Henry Lay Family Foundation



- Middle College...educational opportunity for high school juniors
- Education explores many opportunities for the success of all students.
- Been in existence for over twenty years
- Schools in California, Michigan, Northeast, Florida, North Carolina
- Students take high school classes and college classes on community college or university campus.





Commonwealth Middle College

2009 - 2010



- Students represent Marshall County and McCracken County high schools.
- Fifty students selected for the initial class...20 from Marshall County High, 10 from Heath High, 10 from Lone Oak High, and 10 from Reidland High.
- Students take their regular high school classes..English, math, science, social studies.



- College courses will serve as the elective courses for students.
- Students can earn their high school diploma AND 36 college hours in two years.
- The 36 college hours are tuition free..a savings of nearly \$5000.
- College books will be provided...\$2000 savings.





- Students save the expense of room/board for these two years...\$10,000 savings to family.
- Students are a part of a new, exciting program.
- Students can get a jump start on specific college programs.
- Classes are offered in a different environment.



- Criteria for Selection

- Strong academic student; 2.5 gpa minimum

- Good attendance and discipline record

- Faculty references

- Mature enough to leave the “high school” scene; able to handle freedom on college campus

- Focused on higher education plans

- Family support

- Financial consideration

- First generation college

- Student personal interview





- Selection of principal, counselor
- Visit other Middle College locations
- School personnel, student, parent meetings
- Application process
- Student and parent interviews
- Compass testing for all selected students
- Faculty hired, building access ready
- Selection of students for first class
- Schedules, Open House, Classes begin



First semester highlights:

- Average college course gpa....3.07
- 33/50 students made 3.0 or higher
- 7/50 students made 4.0 in college courses
- Four students in college production of South Pacific
- All students earned 9 college hours

- Students who were “at” school....are now “in” school.
- Students can take advantage of college campus opportunities that are free and accessible...such as tutoring, counseling, college/career fairs, Focus on the Arts series, visits by published authors
- Teachers can lead students into learned because of small class size and personal interaction.

- Middle College students are with other students to whom learning is a priority.
- Many of our students are eligible for free or reduced lunch.
- Students have the opportunity to begin college with support from principal, counselor, and teachers who know them very well and can guide and facilitate their learning.
- Students have a two-year college experience that gives them a solid foundation and the confidence they need to complete their degrees.



Opportunities for growth:

- Enrolled in English 101 (23 students)
- Enrolled in College Algebra (5 students)
- Completed Certified Nursing Assistant certificate; passed state board exams (1 passed, 2 waiting for next test)
- Four students spoke to House and Senate Education committees





- Future plans:
 - Development of the program
 - Refine the program
 - Expand the program